

News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



January 31, 2025



CITY OF DOVER, NH

288 Central Avenue Dover, NH 03820 603-516-6000

City Hall hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Recycling Center hours:

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to



Dover's Master Plan topic of Feb. 5 Council workshop

The City Council will receive an update on the city's <u>Master</u> <u>Plan</u> at a Wednesday, Feb. 5 workshop. The workshop will include an overview of the Master Plan's purpose, its role in guiding long-term growth and development, and how it informs city policies and decision-making.

Recently, the Planning Board adopted the Master Plan's Open Space and Conservation Chapter update, and work is underway now to update the Land Use Analysis Chapter, with the chapter's steering committee <u>holding its first meeting</u> last week. The workshop will also include an executive summary of the Master Plan and show completed action items to date and ongoing recommendations from all chapters of the plan.

<u>Click here</u> for the complete agenda.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in City Hall's Council Chambers. It will be televised on Channel 22 and online at

<u>https://dovernh.viebit.com</u>, where it will also be available for on-demand viewing.

Council to hold special session on Ethics Commission report, recommendations on ethics complaint

The City Council will hold a special session on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. to receive the Ethics Commission report on its findings and recommendations regarding Caitlin Wilkie's ethics complaint against Councilor Fergus Cullen.

The City Council at its Jan. 29 meeting voted to accept the report from the Ethics Commission, which is included in the Jan. 29 City Council agenda materials, and refer the report to a public meeting on Feb. 19. Included in the Jan. 29 meeting minutes is correspondence from Cullen. Both are available online within the Jan. 29 City Council meeting folder.

Wilkie, of Sixth Street, filed a complaint with the City Clerk's office on Nov. 26, 2024 alleging Fergus Cullen, Ward 6 City Councilor and the Council's Planning Board designee, had conflicts of interest defined by Article 10 "Conduct of Officials" of the Dover City Charter and Chapter 21 "Code of Ethics" of the City Code. The complaint cites Charter Article 10-2 "Conflicts of Interest and Disqualification from Decision-Making Process," and code sections Chapter 21-2 "Conflicts of interest," Chapter 21-5 "Required disclosure by officers and employees; recusal," and Chapter 21-8 "Investments in conflict with official duties."

The Ethics Commission held a hearing on Jan. 2 and continued deliberation on Jan. 15.

<u>Chapter 21</u> of Dover's ordinances defines the city's ethical standards, the role of the Ethics Commission, complaint procedures, and the City Council's remedies. The Ethics Commission serves in an advisory role to the City Council.

Library reopens at McConnell Center on Monday, Feb. 3

The Dover Public Library will reopen in its temporary location on Monday, Feb. 3 at 9 a.m.

Its operating hours will now match the McConnell Center's hours: Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, from 12 to 4 p.m. The library's phone numbers remain the same; contact the Circulation Desk at 603-516-6050 or the Children's Room at 603-516-6052 starting Feb. 3.

Adult services will be located in the cafeteria, and Children's services will be in Room 305. Library events will occur in Room 306.

Public use of computers will continue in the McConnell Center. The Dover Adult Learning's computer lab in McConnell Center's Room 301 will be open for public use on Mondays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays and Fridays, from 1 to 5 p.m. To schedule technology help during these times, contact Technology Librarian Nick Gagnon at <u>n.gagnon@dover.nh.gov</u>. There will also be computer stations in the McConnell Center cafeteria after the Feb. 3 opening during regular hours.

The library's physical space at 73 Locust St., closed to the public on Jan. 13, which will remain in place for about a year to allow renovations at the library. The renovations will enhance the 1905 Carnegie Library by adding accessible entrances and programming

space, including additional meeting rooms. The historic front façade of the building will remain unchanged, as will its detailed woodworking throughout. The new addition on the parking lot side of the library will create two entrances: One for the Children's section on the ground floor and another for the main library section on the first floor.

Stay up to date with library renovation plans at <u>https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/library/about-us/renovation/</u>.

For more information, contact the Library at libraryquestions@dover.nh.gov.

City Council to receive FY26 proposed budget Feb. 12

City Manager J. Michael Joyal, Jr. will introduce his proposed fiscal year 2026 budget at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

The City Manager's budget will incorporate the School Board's recommended budget for the School Department, which the School Board approved on Jan. 6. The city-wide budget will also include the first-year projects in the latest six-year Capital Improvements Program adopted in December.

Once the budget is introduced, a digital version will be available on the <u>FY2026 Budget</u> <u>Revealed webpage</u>, which will also include video recordings of budget meetings and workshops and any accompanying documents. A physical copy of the budget will also be available for review at the Dover Public Library and the City Clerk's office. School Board budget documents and video recordings are already posted on the page.

The introduction of the budget begins two months of budget review by the City Council. In subsequent weeks, the City Council will hold workshops to review each department's budget. The Council will also hold two public hearings: one for the public education component of the budget, and one for all other city departments. The City Charter requires the City Council to adopt the annual budget by April 15.

During the budget season, City Manager Joyal will also release a weekly newsletter that recaps any budget-related presentations and a look ahead to what will occur the following week. Sign up for the newsletter at <u>bit.ly/doverdownload</u>, and select "Budget Revealed" from the list of newsletters.



Citywide parking ban in effect tonight

Due to the forecast of snow beginning today, Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, a citywide parking ban will be in effect beginning tonight at 8 p.m., and concluding Saturday, Feb. 1 at 6 a.m. The ban will be in effect downtown on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. only.

While in effect, parking is banned on:

- City streets, sidewalks or adjacent public parking areas.
- Third Street and Belknap parking lots, and Orchard Street lot public parking spaces.

While in effect, limited parking is allowed on:

- The Fourth Street lot's outside spaces only.
- The two outermost rows of the Library lot, facing either the Greek Orthodox Church or Atkinson Street.
- The first two floors of the Orchard Street Parking Garage require paid parking at all times, at \$1.25 per hour. Use Flowbird pay-by-phone app to extend parking time remotely. The top three floors of the garage are reserved for permit parking only. If the parking garage is at capacity, the Transportation Center lot is the best option for off-street parking. The Transportation Center parking lot requires paid parking at all times.

In addition to snow removal, the parking ban allows Community Services crews to treat the roads with salt and sand, and keep areas open for safe travel.

According to the National Weather Service, Dover may receive 1 to 3 inches of snow beginning this afternoon.

The complete forecast for Dover from the National Weather Service can be viewed here: <u>bit.ly/doverweather</u>.

For more information about the parking ban, visit the city's winter parking ban page at <u>bit.ly/doverban</u>.

Upcoming Meetings:

City Council - Ordinance Committee, Feb. 3, 8:30 a.m.

The City Council Ordinance Committee will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 3, 2025, beginning at 8:30 a.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

Energy Commission, Feb. 3, 5:30 p.m.

The Energy Commission will hold a special meeting on Monday, Feb. 3, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Conservation Commission, Feb. 3, 5:30 p.m.

The Conservation Commission Forest Management Subcommittee will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 3, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the First Floor

Current bid opportunities with the City of Dover

The City of Dover is currently accepting bids for the following projects:

 <u>REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS -</u> <u>Consulting Services-Bellamy River Fish</u> <u>Passage Restoration Bridge</u> <u>Replacement</u>

Current bid documents can be accessed on the Finance Department's <u>bid page</u>. Vendors can also join the City's bid list by visiting the site.

For more information, contact the Finance and Purchasing Office at 603-516-6030.

Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Arts Commission, Feb. 3, 6:30 p.m.

The Arts Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 3, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in Room 323 at the McConnell Center.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

City Council - Appointments Committee, Feb. 5, 6 p.m.

The City Council Appointments Committee will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m., in Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

City Council, Feb. 5, 7 p.m.

The City Council will hold a workshop on Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

Library Board of Trustees, Feb. 6, 4 p.m.

The Library Board of Trustees will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025, beginning at 4 p.m., in Room 306 at the McConnell Center.

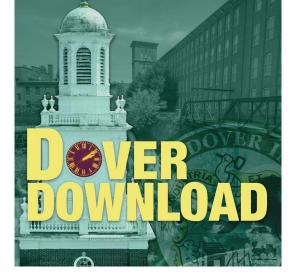
To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Zoning Board, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a special meeting on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

For a complete list of upcoming meetings, visit <u>https://www.dover.nh.gov/governme</u>



No Silver Bullet: Addressing NH's Housing Crisis

In the latest episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Ryan Pope and George Regan from New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority about the state's housing challenges. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <u>https://bit.ly/4gd5h1b</u>.

Volunteer boards help keep Dover vibrant

The City of Dover is a vibrant community due in large part to the significant energy and talent of citizen participation on the city's many boards, committees, and commissions. Input from these boards, committees, and commissions helps guide Dover's policy decisions.

Want to get involved? There are currently committees seeking members to fill regular and alternate member vacancies, including:

- Arts Commission
- Heritage Commission
- McConnell Center Advisory Committee
- Planning Board
- Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Utilities Commission
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

The complete list of boards and committees can be found at <u>www.dover.nh.gov/government/boards-and-</u> commissions/

To apply, complete an application, <u>available</u> <u>here</u> and at the City Clerk's Office, and either drop it off at the Clerk's Office or email it to nt/open-government/publicmeetings/.

City Clerk Jerrica Vansylyvong-Bizier at j.bizier@dover.nh.gov. Applicants are welcome to apply to any board or commission. Applications are kept on file for one year.

The City Council appoints citizens to boards and commissions from recommendations of its Appointments Committee, which meets regularly to review applications.

Dover Download 'Question of the Week'

We want to hear from you! In each edition of Dover Download, we're looking for your response to our question of the week. A new poll will appear each week in Dover Download, along with the results for the previous week. Participating is easy - click on the link below to cast your vote.

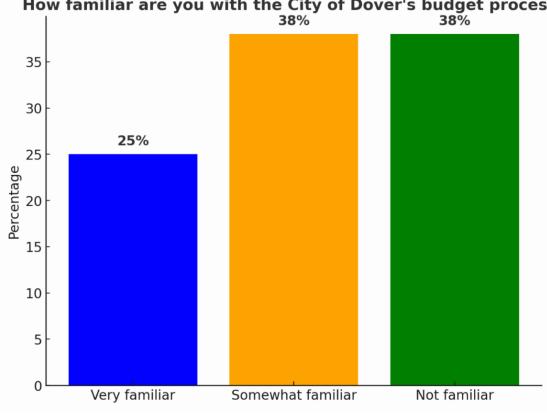
This week's question:

"What type of batteries do you primarily use for your household devices that require batteries?"

Let us know here: https://polco.us/mrdyf5.

Please note that if you don't already have an account with Polco, the city's polling system, you will be asked to create one. Responses are anonymous.

Here are the results from last week's poll, which asked, "How familiar are you with the City of Dover's budget process?"



How familiar are you with the City of Dover's budget process?



The following events are from various historical records, sources, and texts about the history of Dover.

For more on the history of Dover, visit the Dover Public Library, Locust Street, and the Woodman Museum on Central Avenue. The Public Library also maintains an online collection of historical information <u>located here</u>.

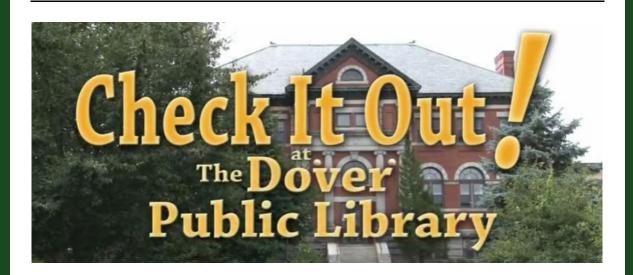
Feb. 5, 1658 — It was agreed that 20 pounds per year should be raised for a schoolmaster for teaching all the children of the town. The schoolmaster would be responsible for teaching reading, writing, Latin and math.

Feb. 2, 1836 — The coldest day of the year is recorded at 17 degrees below zero.

Feb. 3, 1844 — Mr. B. A. Ford passed with a horse and sleigh over the ice from Dover Neck to Newington, a circumstance which had not before occurred for 30 years. The winter of 1844 was so severe that Boston Harbor froze over, and a canal had to be cut to admit the passage of vessels.

Feb. 1, 1889 — The schooner Zimri S. Wallingford, built by the Dover Navigation Company in 1882, arrived in Palatka, Florida. The Z.S. Wallingford was one of five schooners constructed by the Dover Navigation Company to accommodate the growing mercantile needs of Dover's mills. The Dover Navigation Company, despite a slow start, became a great commercial success. The schooners generated significant interest among the residents of Dover, who followed daily accounts of the schooners' location and payloads in the local newspapers. For more on the history of the Dover Navigation Company, as well as the remarkable history of Dover Landing, see "Port of Dover: Two Centuries of Shipping on the Cochecho" by Robert A. Whitehouse and Cathleen C. Beaudoin.

Jan. 31, 1915 — By this day, the Jas. F. Parle Ice Company had cut and stored over 6,000 tons of ice from the Bellamy River and was preparing to cut ice on the Cochecho River.



This Week at the Library

Saturday-Sunday, February 1-2 Library Closed However, his most widely appreciated pieces were his poems. His writing

Monday, Feb. 3, 10 to 10:45 a.m. Preschool Storytime McConnell Center, Room 306 Join us for a Preschool Storytime for kids aged 3-5. We will read books, sing songs and participate in some fun activities in celebration of winter animals and snow.

> Monday, Feb. 3, 6 to 8 p.m. Teen Dungeons & Dragons McConnell Center, Room 306

Do you love the idea of exploring fantastical worlds? Do you have a love of collaborative gameplay and an active imagination? Then Dungeons and Dragons is for you! Join Dungeon Master Michael for this beginner series, where you will create your own character, play a one-shot story campaign, and learn the basics of D&D 5th Edition. This program is for teens entering grades 6-12 only, and all supplies will be provided.

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Genealogy Group McConnell Center, Room 306

Whether you're new to genealogical research or a seasoned pro, this group is a great way to meet others who share the same passion, can give you advice in your research, and listen to your newlydiscovered family histories.

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Virtual: Langston Hughes and the Harlem Renaissance Explore the contributions of Langston Hughes, one of the most visible writers of the Harlem Renaissance. Hughes work ranged from novels to plays. He also wrote short stories, children's books, translations, and anthologies as well.

reflected the idea that black culture should be celebrated because of its value to the fabric of America and the world. *Register to receive the live stream link.*

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Family Storytime McConnell Center in Room 306

Children of all ages with caregivers are invited to attend this program that includes stories, fingerplays, songs, and puppets.

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. All Abilities Chapter Book Club Great Bay Services

Join the All Abilities Club! These weekly programs are geared towards adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their caregivers. At each session, we will read several chapters from a popular book. We will end with activities and crafts related to the book and some time for socializing.

Thursday, Feb. 6, 10 to 11 a.m. Cover 2 Cover Book Group Residence at Silver Square Join us on the first Thursday of every month to discuss a book. February's selection is *The Heart* by Maylis de Kerengal. Copies of the book can be borrowed at the Adult Circulation Desk. New members welcome.

Thursday, Feb. 6, 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. Two Eyed Cyclops: Sci-Fi and Fantasy Book Club

McConnell Center in Room 306 Join for a lively discussion of *The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms* by N.K. Jemisin. Copies of the book are available at the Adult Services Desk.



Public input sessions to focus on Community Development Block Grant Program

The City of Dover will host five listening sessions starting Jan. 23 to gather community input for its Community Development Block Grant program.

The sessions aim to identify critical community needs and opportunities that will guide future CDBG funding decisions. Input will help develop the city's next Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

The final sessions will be held:

- Feb. 4: 7:30-9:30 a.m., City Hall, First Floor Conference Room, 288 Central Ave.
- Feb. 6: 6-8 p.m., City Hall, Council Conference Room, 288 Central Ave.

Community members unable to attend can provide feedback through a brief online survey at <u>polco.us/s4pcpy</u>.

The CDBG program distributes annual funding to organizations and projects that address community-identified needs.

For more information about Dover's CDBG program, visit <u>dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/planning/community-development/</u>.

THE GREATER DOVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WELCOMES:



The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce held several ribbon-cutting ceremonies recently to recognize new Chamber members.



Currie Creative, LLC

Currie Creative offers consulting, training, and media services for small businesses and nonprofits. The company was founded by Judi Currie, a communications professional with experience writing for newspaper, magazine, and broadcast media with extensive technical knowledge of Microsoft and Adobe platforms.

To learn more about Currie Creative, LLC, visit their website: https://curriecreative.com/

Meineke

Meineke is an auto repair shop located in Dover. Services include oil changes, brakes, alignments, and exhaust repairs, plus state inspections.

Meineke is located at 899 Central Ave., Dover. To learn more about Meineke or schedule an appointment visit their website at <u>https://www.meineke.com/</u> or call the shop at 603-617-4634.

PROFORM Athletic Development & Fitness Training

PROFORM provides professional science-based injury prevention, fitness training, sports performance training, athletic development, body composition, nutrition and sports nutrition. Professional strength and conditioning coach Ryan George's knowledge and experience allows him to focus on the physical needs of the individual, this approach allows for optimal results and performance.

PROFORM Athletic Development & Fitness Training is located at 1 Washington St., Suite 4183, in Dover. To learn more about PROFORM, visit their website at <u>http://www.proformathleticdevelopment.com/</u> or email <u>proformcoach@gmail.com</u>.

Radiance Natural Health

Radiance Natural Health is an Asian medicine practice that aspires to change the way that we think of and experience healthcare. The services offered include acupuncture, massage therapy, Chinese herbal medicine, and manual lymphatic drainage.

Radiance Natural Health is located at 314b Central Ave. in Dover. To learn more about Radiance Natural Health, visit their website at <u>https://www.radiancenaturalhealth.com/</u>, by calling 603-534-2334, or emailing <u>info@radiancenaturalhealth.com</u>.

SoDo Pub

SoDo Pub is a neighborhood pub serving South Dover in the Pointe Place community. Established in 2023, SoDo offers local craft beer and delicious pub fare to enjoy while catching a game, making new friends, or partaking in one of SoDo's nearly-nightly special events.

SoDo Pub is located at 45 Pointe Place, #6 in Dover. To learn more about SoDo Pub, visit their website at <u>https://www.sodopubnh.com/</u>, email <u>info@sodopubnh.com</u>, or call 603-457-2077.

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit association of businesses, professionals, individuals, and organizations working together to advance the economic well-being of its members and the community. For details on Dover Chamber membership and other programs, or for a schedule of activities, call (603) 742-2218 or visit www.dovernh.org.

Sign up for winter parking ban alerts

The City of Dover utilizes winter parking bans as needed through the winter season to

clear the streets of snow. The public may sign up for phone, text and/or email to receive parking ban alerts.

Parking bans can occur during a storm or afterward for cleanup. When a parking ban is in effect, all vehicles must be off public ways and specific parking lots to avoid being ticketed and towed.

To receive text or phone alerts, visit <u>https://bit.ly/dovercodered</u> or text "DoverNH" to 99411 from your phone. Follow the instructions to create a managed account to modify notification settings.

To receive email alerts, visit <u>https://bit.ly/doverdownload</u> and add "Parking Ban Alerts" to your email subscriptions.

The City of Dover also utilizes its website, social media accounts, Channel 22, and press releases to local news media to notify residents about parking bans. The current ban status is always posted at https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/police/parking-bureau/parking-bans.html. The public can call 603-516-PARK (7275) to check the parking ban status anytime.

City of Dover employment opportunities

Want to work for the City of Dover? The City's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and a downloadable application for employment. The City of Dover is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- Police Officer
- Water Exercise Instructor II, Part-Time
- Swim Instructor, Part-Time
- Lifeguard I, Part-Time
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- Diesel Mechanic
- Engineering Intern
- Arena Maintenance / Ice Resurfacer
- Laborer Public Works Streets & Storm Water
- Truck Driver Streets
- Custodian McConnell Center, Part-Time
- Assistant City Planner-Housing & Community Development
- Secretary Community Services, Part-Time

For more information about these positions or employment opportunities with the City of Dover, <u>click here</u>.

Dover School District employment opportunities

Want to work for the Dover School District? The District's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and online applications. The District is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- District Website Manager
- Dean of Student Services
- Unified High School Volleyball Coach
- Boys Varsity Tennis Head Coach
- Girls Varsity Tennis Head Coach
- Title I Interventionist
- Substitute Teachers
- Paraprofessionals
- Title I Social Worker

For more information about these positions, click here.



City of Dover | 288 Central Avenue | Dover, NH 03820 US

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